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## Richard T. Kusiolek to "Sir" (16 October 1962)

Richard T. Kusiolek

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16 October 1962

*Uncomplete*

James Meredith  
Baxter Hall  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi

Sir,

May I begin by saying that I do not write often concerning articles that I read in newsprint. Sir, you are the most narrowminded being that I have seen or read about in the last few weeks.

I am a military man stationed in Japan. After reading your statement, "On Monday, October 8, 1962, Negro soldiers indeed were seen again among the soldiers. The ones I saw, however, were on a garbage detail truck and unarmed. The white members of the detail were armed. This condition constitutes a dishonor and a disgrace to the hundreds of thousands of Negroes who wear the uniform of our military service..", I became infuriated. I have seen how your actions have "dirtied" our American values to the mockery of the entire World, because you felt a crusading spirit. When will the time come when your people stop trying to prove themselves different and try, at least, to be citizens who are respectful of the law. Your statement regarding negroes is a disgrace to you and to all the negroes who have fought and died for our country. You have taken one particular incident and mushroomed it into a voice of propaganda and narrowmindedness. You have made the uniform that I wear and you wore a thing of disgrace. Who has given you the right to desecrate? Sir, I consider you a demagogue, muckraker, and opportunist. What purpose do you serve? Sir, no man has the right to slander America and expect to be called an American.

*COPY*

*Richard T. Kusiolek*  
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